

Appl. No. 10/750,981
Reply to Office Action of JULY 28, 2005

Expedited Procedure - Amendment after Final Rejection

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed 07/28/05. By said Action, Claims 1-5 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112; Claims 14-16 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onishi (US 6225798, fig.5-7) in view of Onishi (US 6225798, fig. 8 and 5) (Ref. AD).

By this Amendment the specification has been amended to overcome the lack of enablement rejection. Furthermore, Claim 1 has been amended, Claim 14 has been amended and Claims 15,16 have been canceled (incorporated into claim 14).

Fig. 2 has been amended to insert arrows between 122 and 124, and 122 and 126 for a clearer indication of first and second connections. A Replacement Sheet of the amended Fig. 2 is enclosed.

No new matter is deemed to have been added by way of these amendments.

§ 112 - Rejection for Failing to Comply with the Enablement Requirement

The Examiner asserts that "a second connection" in claim 1 is not enabling from the disclosure because it is not described in the specification or in the drawings (particularly in elected fig. 2-3). The Examiner further asserts that loader/unloader 150 of fig. 2-3 cannot be a second connection because it is individually claimed in claim 4 (and hence it is different from a second connection); wherein claim 4 depends from claim 3, 2 and 1. Therefore, a second connection as claimed is not clear from the claim the specification or drawing to make and use the invention. Dependent claims 2-5 and 7-9 are also rejected because they depend from rejected claim 1.

The Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's objection that "a second connection" in claim 1 is not enabling from the disclosure because it is not described in the specification or in the drawings. The first connection and the second connection are illustrated in fig. 2 of the drawings, where connectors connecting 122 and 124 are operated as a first connection and where connectors that connect 122 and 126 are operated as a second connection. Both first and second connections are inside switch 120. To clarify this point, the Applicant amended claim 1 and increased the arrows for clearer indicator in fig. 2.

Appl. No. 10/750,981
Reply to Office Action of JULY 28, 2005

Expedited Procedure - Amendment after Final Rejection

The connections are illustrated in description [0012]. To clarify this point, the Applicant amends the description to recite at least two device interfaces each of which is connectable to the tester interface through a switch, we call this connection a first connection, and each of which is connectable to a corresponding group of electronic devices through a same switch but different connector, we call this connection a second connection.

The connections are also illustrated in description [0042], which recites a switch which is operable to alternate the electrical connection 128 from connectors 122-124 (link to position A i.e. first connection) to connectors 122-126 (link to position B i.e. second connection). Connector 124 is electrically connected to the first test socket 130 and the second test socket 230.

In view of the above, the amended claim 1 should now be considered clear and allowable.
Dependent claims 2-5 and 7-9 should now be considered allowable also.

§ 103(a) Obviousness Rejections

1) Claim 14-16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onishi (US 6225798, fig. 5-7) in view of Onishi (US 6225798, fig. 8 and 5).

To distinguish the claimed invention over US Patent 6,225,798, the applicant has incorporated claims 15 and 16 into claim 14 as below and cancelled claims 15 and 16:

Claim 14 now recites a method of automatically testing electronic devices comprising the steps of:

- in a primary test cycle,
- loading a first group and a second group of electronic devices to a first and a second test socket.
 - connecting the first group of electronic devices to a tester interface for testing;
 - disconnecting the first group of electronic devices from the tester interface upon completion of the testing;
 - connecting the second group of electronic devices to the tester interface for testing,
 - disconnecting the second group of electronic devices from the tester interface upon completion of the testing.

FROM :

FAX NO. :9496406261

Oct. 28 2005 10:00AM P10

Appl. No. 10/750,981
Reply to Office Action of JULY 28, 2005

Expedited Procedure - Amendment after Final Rejection

- f) unloading the first group and the second group of electronic devices from the first and the second test sockets,
wherein the steps (c) and (d) are simultaneously operable.

Claim 15 is incorporated as element a).

Claim 16 is incorporated as element f).

A test handling apparatus as recited in the amended claim 14, of the present invention has a primary test cycle, include loading/unloading, at least the two device interface, one tester interface and the at least two device interface is alternately connectable, and the at least two device interfaces receive a corresponding group of electronic devices at substantially the same time, but are tested on alternate basis, i.e. testing second group device after tested first group device. The Applicant's invention works on parallel moving and series testing. To clarify this point and distinguish over US Patent 6,225,798, the applicant has amended to incorporate claims 15, 16 into claim 14.

In view of the above, the amended claim 14 should now be considered allowable and novel over AD.

Claims 15, 16 are now cancelled.

If the Examiner has any further questions, or believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to the advancement of the prosecution of the subject application, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



LAWRENCE N. GINSBERG,
Attorney for Applicant, Reg. No. 30,943

10/28/05
DATE